

Republican FloorPrep

Legislative Digest

Monday, June 23, 1997

John Boehner Chairman 8th District, Ohio

> House Meets at 10:30 a.m. for Morning Hour and 2:00 p.m. for Legislative Business (No Votes Before 5:00 p.m.)

> > Anticipated Floor Action:

H.R. 1901—Federal Tort Claims Act Clarification H.R. 1902—Charitable Donation Antitrust Immunity Act H.R. 1532—Veterans' Cemetery Protection Act

H.R. 748—Prohibition on Financial Transactions with Countries Supporting **Terrorism Act**

H.R. 1866—Need-Based Educational Aid Antitrust Protection Act H.R. 1581—Reauthorizing Current Federal Arbitration Programs H.Con.Res. ___ — Resolution Regarding Cost of Government Day H.R. 1553—John F. Kennedy Assassination Records **Collection Act Amendments** H.R. 1119—FY 1998 Defense Authorization Act



Bills Considered Under Suspension of the Rules

Floor Situation: The House will consider the following eight bills under suspension of the rules as its first order of business today. Each is debatable for 40 minutes, may not be amended, and requires a two-thirds majority vote for passage.

H.R. 1901—Federal Tort Claims Act Clarification amends the National Gambling Impact Study Commission Act (P.L. 104-169) to clarify that the commission is a federal agency and its members and employees are federal employees for the purposes and protections of the Federal Tort Claims Act (FTCA). The bill was introduced by Mr. Hyde and was reported by the Judiciary Committee by voice vote.

- **H.R. 1902**—Charitable Donation Antitrust Immunity Act clarifies the intent of the 1995 Charitable Gift Annuity Antitrust Relief Act (*P.L. 104-63*), establishing that (1) antitrust laws do not apply to charitable gift annuities or charitable remainder trusts; (2) any 501(c)(3) non-profit organization or person offering the specified trust or annuity is granted immunity from lawsuits; (3) in transactions (e.g., filing documents with the IRS or executing trust documents) between a donor and donee regarding charitable gift annuities or charitable remainder trusts, the annuity or trust is presumed to meet the statutory definition of a charitable gift annuity or charitable remainder trust as determined by the IRS; and (4) a state has three years to pass legislation overriding these provisions in regard to its own laws. A CBO estimate was unavailable at press time. The bill was introduced by Mr. Hyde and reported by the Judiciary Committee by voice vote on June 18, 1997.
- **H.R. 1532**—**Veterans' Cemetery Protection Act** directs the U.S. Sentencing Commission to review and amend sentencing guidelines to increase penalties for any offense against any property of a national cemetery. Current law does not include specific sentencing guidelines for theft and vandalism at national cemeteries, only general prohibitions against damaging federal property. A CBO estimate was unavailable at press time. The bill was introduced by Mr. Calvert and reported by the Judiciary Committee by voice vote on June 18, 1997.
- H.R. 748—Prohibition on Financial Transactions With Countries Supporting Terrorism Act amends the 1996 Antiterrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act (*P.L. 104-132*) to remove the authority given to the departments of State and Treasury to provide exceptions to the prohibition against engaging in financial transactions with terrorist countries. Instead, the bill permits only limited, specified transactions with terrorist countries. A CBO estimate was unavailable at press time. The bill was introduced by Mr. McCollum and reported by the Judiciary Committee by voice vote on June 18, 1997.
- **H.R. 1866**—**Need-Based Educational Aid Antitrust Protection Act** makes permanent the temporary exemptions to antitrust laws found in the 1994 Improving America's Schools Act (*P.L. 103-382*), which is set to expire on September 30, 1997. This law established a temporary antitrust exemption to allow schools to provide aid on the basis of need only and to use common principles of needs analysis. The bill was introduced by Mr. Smith (TX) and Mr. Frank and was reported by the Judiciary Committee by voice vote.
- **H.R. 1581—Reauthorizing Current Federal Arbitration Programs** permanently reauthorizes 20 pilot arbitration programs that are based in the U.S. District Courts around the country. The current authorization expires on September 1, 1997. The bill was introduced by Mr. Coble and was reported by the Judiciary Committee by voice vote.
- **H.Con.Res. Resolution Regarding Cost of Government Day** expresses the sense of Congress that the cost of government spending and regulatory programs should be reduced so that American families can keep more of what they earn. The total cost of government consumes 36.2 percent of the nation's net national product, which exceeds \$3.52 trillion, up from \$3.38 trillion in 1996. Also, federal regulatory costs now exceed \$785 billion, which amounts to \$13,500 for every American. The resolution states that the Cost of Government Day should be July 3, 1997. The bill was introduced by Mr. DeLay and was not considered by a committee.
- **H.R. 1553—John F. Kennedy Assassinations Records Collection Act Amendments** amends the President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collections Act of 1992 to extend the authoriza-

tion of the Assassination Records Review Board until September 30, 1998. It also authorizes \$1.6 million in appropriations for FY 1998. A one year extension will allow the board to review and release numerous documents from the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI), the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), and other sources, before it must submit a final report. CBO estimates that enactment of the bill will cost the federal government \$1.6 million in discretionary outlays. The bill was introduced by Mr. Burton and was reported by the Government Reform & Oversight Committee by voice vote.

Additional Information: See *Legislative Digest*, Vol. XXVI, #18, June 20, 1997.



H.R. 1119—FY 1998 Defense Authorization Act

Floor Situation: The House will continue consideration of H.R. 1119 after it completes consideration of the scheduled suspensions. Last week, the House completed general debate and began considering amendments to the bill under a modified closed rule. The rule waives all points of order against the bill and its consideration. It makes in order a committee amendment in the nature of a substitute as base text. The rule makes in order only those amendments listed below, to be debated in the order listed and for the amount of time specified. The rule provides an extra 60 minutes of debate on two amendments regarding U.S. troops in Bosnia, equally divided between the chairman and ranking minority member of the National Security Committee. It authorizes the chairman of the National Security Committee to offer amendments *en bloc*, which shall be debatable for 20 minutes. It allows the chairman of the Committee of the Whole to postpone votes during consideration and reduce the voting time to five minutes for a postponed vote, so long as it follows a regular 15-minute vote. The rule also allows the chairman of the Committee of the Whole to recognize amendments out of order, so long as the sponsor makes such a request at least one hour beforehand. Finally, the rule provides for one motion to recommit, with or without instructions.

Summary: H.R. 1119 authorizes \$268.2 billion in new budget authority and \$266 billion in outlays for the Department of Defense (DOD). The bill reflects spending levels equal to those contained in the balanced budget agreement (H.Con.Res. 84). This amount represents a budget authority increase of approximately \$2.6 billion over the president's request and approximately \$2.2 billion over last year's authorization levels. Under the balanced budget agreement, H.R. 1119 projects \$6.6 billion more in outlays for FY 1998 than the administration had projected and \$3.0 billion more than Congress had projected last year.

Overall, the bill authorizes \$69.5 billion (\$66 million more than the president's request) for military personnel, \$95.1 billion (\$589 million less than the president's request) for operations and maintenance and working capital funds, \$46.3 billion (\$3.7 million more than the president's request) for weapons procurement, \$37.3 billion (\$1.3 billion more than the president's request) for research and development, \$9.1 billion (\$750 million more than the president's request) for military construction and family housing, and \$11 billion (\$2.6 billion less than the president's request) for the defense related programs of the Department of Energy. CBO estimates that enactment will result in outlays of \$267 billion in FY 1998, \$91.2 billion in FY 1999, \$36 billion in FY 2000, \$15.5 billion in FY

2001, and \$6.7 billion in FY 2002. The bill affects direct spending, so pay-as-you-go procedures do apply. The bill was introduced by Mr. Spence and Mr. Dellums and was reported by the National Security Committee by a vote of 51-3 on June 11, 1997.

Views (on the overall bill):

Republican Leadership: Supports **Chairman Spence:** Supports

Clinton Administration: No Position Available

Amendments: As stated above, the rule makes in order only those amendments listed below, debatable for the amount of time specified. Unless otherwise specified, all amendments in Part B are debatable for 10 minutes, equally divided between a proponent and an opponent.

Part A Amendments

Messrs. Dellums, Kasich, and Foley may offer an amendment, debatable for 90 minutes, to eliminate \$331.2 million from the B-2 stealth bomber program and transfer the funding to increase the National Guard's reserve and equipment account by an equal amount. The amendment also prohibits other funds from being used for advanced procurement or production line expenses for more aircraft beyond the 21 aircraft previously authorized. Staff Contacts: Doug Necessary (Dellums), x5-6703; Mike Lofgren (Kasich), x5-7270; Shawn Gallagher (Foley), x5-5792

Mr. Buyer may offer an amendment, debatable for 20 minutes, to compel the administration to honor its commitment to withdraw ground elements of the U.S. Armed Forces in the Republics of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Under the amendment, no DOD appropriated funds may be obligated towards the deployment of U.S. troops after June 30, 1998, barring any special presidential request or congressional action. Since December 1996, almost 20,000 U.S. military personnel have participated in the United Nation's peacekeeping mission in Bosnia. Incremental costs for the U.S., according to DOD estimates, have exceeded \$6.5 billion. Although U.S. troops have been part of a multinational force, critics argue that the U.S. has born a disproportionate share of the financial costs. President Clinton recently proposed June 30, 1998, as the date for ending the current mission. This amendment essentially codifies the president's proposal. *Staff Contact: Jim Lariviere, x5-5037*

Mr. Hilleary may offer an amendment, debatable for 20 minutes, to prohibit DOD funds from being allocated or expended for ground deployment of U.S. troops in Bosnia after December 31, 1997. The amendment also prohibits DOD funds from being used to conduct law enforcement or other activities by U.S. troops that would have the effect of jeopardizing the primary mission or increasing the risk of the safety of the troops. The president may request that the appropriation limitations be lifted and the deployment extended until June 30, 1998, which Congress must approve through a joint resolution. The amendment additionally requires a report from the administration by October 31, 1997, which addresses the role of the U.S. in preparing its European allies to assume control over the peacekeeping mission in Bosnia, as well as provide an update on the goals of the Stabilization Force, possible risks to the safety of U.S. troops, and the planned U.S. exit strategy. *Staff Contact: Bob Irvin, x5-6831*

Mr. Gilman may offer an amendment, debatable for 60 minutes, to require military commanders to report and initiate searches for missing personnel members within 48 hours, instead of the current 10

days, unless prevented by combat conditions. The amendment also stipulates that if a body is recovered that could not be identified by visual means, it should receive certification by a credible forensic authority. The amendment additionally establishes personnel files for any Korean War cases of unaccounted personnel. Finally, the bill applies the same provisions towards civilian DOD personnel and private contractors working with the military who disappeared during times of war or armed conflict. *Staff Contact: Todd Burger*, *x5-4315*

Mr. Buyer and Mr. Kennedy (RI) may offer an amendment, debatable for 60 minutes, to provide for a series of initiatives to improve the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans' affairs investigation of Persian Gulf illnesses, and the treatment of ill Gulf War veterans. Specifically, the amendment (1) authorizes \$4.5 million to establish a cooperative DOD/VA program of clinical trials to evaluate treatments which might relieve the symptoms of Gulf War illnesses; (2) requires the secretaries of both departments to develop a comprehensive plan for providing health care to all veterans, active-duty members and reserves who suffer from symptoms of Gulf War illnesses. Though often referred to as Persian Gulf Syndrome, experts who have examined the available medical data do not believe that veterans are suffering from a single illness. Instead, experts hypothesize that veterans are suffering from a variety of illnesses, the cause or causes of which are still unknown. The Presidential Advisory Committee on Gulf War Veterans' Illnesses made extensive recommendations on additional actions which could be taken to improve the government's response to these veterans. The administration recently announced that it was considering regulatory changes to liberalize eligibility for disability compensation for Persian Gulf War veterans who suffer from an undiagnosed illness. *Staff Contact: Jim Lariviere*, x5-5037

Messrs. Everett, Fazio, Klug, and Sabo may offer an amendment, debatable for one hour, to strike the provisions in the bill regarding depot maintenance. Essentially, the bill currently requires the Clinton Administration to follow the 1995 BRAC base closure law and close Kelly and McClellan Air Force bases in Texas and California, respectively. The amendment returns DOD to its current policy of requiring that there be a 60/40 percent split of repair and maintenance work between the public and private sector for depot maintenance. Proponents of the amendment argue that the bill currently restricts DOD's ability to meet its own needs by forcing it to place more repair and maintenance work in public depots, without taking into account the "best bang for the buck." Proponents contend that the bill currently restricts DOD's ability to achieve savings through out-sourcing or privatizing. Opponents of the amendment counter that the bill's language simply maintains the current policy recommended by the 1995 base closure and realignment commission. During the last round of base closing recommendations in 1995—which included both the Kelly and McClellan bases--the Clinton administration announced that it would continue operations at these two bases through private contractors. Therefore, opponents contest that, by allowing private contractors to take over work at the two facilities, the president politicized an issue that had already been resolved by BRAC in order to preserve jobs in two important electoral states during the campaign. Finally, opponents of the amendment point toward a GAO report which states that failure to close the bases will cost \$468 million a year, as well as an Air Force report which has estimated these costs at \$689 Staff Contact: Wade Heck (Everett), x5-2901 and Duncan McFetridge (Fazio), x5million. 5716.

Part B Amendments

Mr. Bachus may offer an amendment to deny military funeral benefits to any person who (1) has been convicted of a state or federal crime where death is a possible punishment or (2) sentenced to

imprisonment without parole. On June 5, 1997, Henry Francis Hays was executed for murdering a Mobile, Alabama teenager. Mr. Hays, a member of the Ku Klux Klan, lynched the young man for no apparent reason other than the color of his skin. Because Mr. Hays served briefly in the Army in the early 1970s, he was accorded a military funeral complete with an honor guard, a 12-gun salute and a flag-draped coffin. Several members of the armed forces have expressed their concern at the possibility of having to serve on an honor guard for a man like Mr. Hays. *Staff Contact: Shane Gill*, *x5-4921*

Mr. Barrett (NE) may offer an amendment to require the Secretary of Defense to conduct an industrial assessment study of the domestic capacitator and resistor industries to determine their importance to the national defense and the defense industrial mobilization base, as well as determine if they are in danger of being critically weakened due to removal of tariffs on imports under the Information Technology Agreement. Staff Contact: Mark Whitacre, x5-6435

Mr. Bartlett may offer a technical amendment to strike section 217 of the bill, which concerned placement of IDECM on the F/A-18 C/D, but which is no longer applicable.

Staff Contact: Scott Plecs, x5-2721

Mr. Bereuter may offer an amendment to express the sense of the House that the U.S. should maintain approximately 100,000 U.S. military personnel in the Asia and Pacific region until such time as there is a peaceful and permanent resolution to the major security and political conflicts in the region. *Staff Contact: Mike Ennis*, *x6-7825*

Mr. Brady may offer an amendment to prevent American troops from being used to perform environmental activities on foreign lands. Proponents argue that highly trained soldiers may be subject to participate in "environmental crusades" throughout Latin America and the Caribbean to defend the rain forests and endangered species. At a time of significant military downsizing, U.S. armed forces should serve to protect and defend national security threats and not engage in environmental quests in foreign countries. Staff Contact: Barry Brown, x5-4901

Mr. Buyer may offer an amendment to authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to pay a bonus to current or former active duty members of the Coast Guard. Currently, such bonuses are authorized to be paid only to current or former active duty members of the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps. *Staff Contact: Jim Lariviere*, *x5-5037*

Mr. Coburn may offer an amendment to prevent any funds authorized by the bill from being used to support the United States Man and the Biosphere Program (USMAB), a program administered by the State Department which works in cooperation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organizations (UNESCO) to establish biosphere reserves. Although Congress has never authorized USMAB and withdrew from membership in UNESCO in 1984, the Air Force contributed \$50,000 to USMAB in FY 1996. No figures are yet available for FY 1997. **Staff Contact: Matt Rader, x5-2701**

Mr. Everett may offer an amendment to endorse the Army's Early Production & Fielding (EPAP) initiative which places the Comanche T800/801 engine in National Guard Huey (UH-1) helicopters. Development of the engine should prove more cost effective as well as result in greater range, payload, and performance over the current Huey engine. Currently, there is a three year gap be-

tween the development of the Comanche engine and its airframe; therefore, the Army is using that time frame to place the engines into upgraded Huey's for use by the National Guard. The amendment does not authorize funding, but simply states congressional support for the Army's endeavors in developing the Comanche. *Staff Contact: Wade Heck*, *x5-2901*

Mr. Faleomavaega may offer an amendment to clarify the eligibility of U.S. nationals (legal residents who have not yet obtained citizenship) for participation in the Senior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC). The amendment calls for a comprehensive report from the Secretary of Defense to Congress, assessing the performance records of U.S. nationals participating in ROTC programs. The secretary's recommendations would then help determine whether or not United States nationals should be eligible to participate in ROTC and form the basis for future legislation pertaining to their involvement. In 1996, an Army judicial ruling declared that non-U.S. citizens cannot serve in ROTC, which includes Samoan's who are classified as U.S. nationals and not citizens. **Staff Contact: Enere Lebi, x5-8577**

Mr. Farr may offer an amendment to extend the authorization of two weapon ranges for Camp Roberts, California, for one year. *Staff Contact: Matt Green*, *x5-2861*

Ms. Fowler may offer an amendment to expand the scope of the report that the Secretary of Defense must, under the bill, provide to Congress concerning military developments in the People's Republic of China. Specifically, the amendment requires the secretary to address the additional areas of nuclear weapons development, electronic warfare, certain telecommunications technologies, advanced aerospace technologies with military applications, and antisubmarine warfare technologies. It also requires the secretary to assess the implications of the sale of United States and other foreign products to China, determining their role in China's military development and any potential threats this may pose to the U.S.'s strategic interests. Staff Contact: Bill Klein, x5-2501

Mr. Fox may offer an amendment to require that the POW/MIA flag be flown at all Departments of Veterans Affairs medical centers on every day that the flag of the United States is flown in order to demonstrate the nation's respect for these honored veterans. **Staff Contact: David Lintgen**, **x5**-6111

Mr. Fox may offer an amendment to award reservist veterans of the Persian Gulf War, who were deployed in direct support but who did not serve in the theater of operations, with Veterans Employment Preference points. *Staff Contact: David Lintgen*, *x5-6111*

Mr. Frank may offer an amendment, debatable for 20 minutes, to restrict the amount spent by the United States as its share of the total cost of NATO expansion to no more than 10 percent of the cost of expansion, or \$2 billion, whichever is less, between FY 1998 and 2010. The amendment also states that if the United States' share exceeds 10 percent of the total cost of NATO expansion, then no U.S. funds will be expended until that percentage is reduced below the 10 percent limit. Staff Contact: Michael Treisman, x5-5931

Mr. Frelinghuysen may offer an amendment to require that "single hull" tankers may not alter their gross tonnage weight from that listed on their tonnage certificates as of July 1, 1997. Current law calls for a phaseout of single hull tankers, based on their age and weight, from operation in U.S. waters in order to make room for the more environmentally safe double-hulled tankers. In order to

circumvent these requirements, however, some vessel owners have had their ships remeasured to exclude certain spaces originally included in the vessels' existing measurements. This amendment would make it impossible for a vessel to evade its scheduled phaseout date. *Staff Contact: Ed Krenik*, x3-8745

Mr. Gallegly may offer an amendment to require the secretaries of Agriculture and Defense to report to Congress within six months on the feasibility of transferring ownership of Modular Airborne Fire Fighting (MAFF) units from the Department of Agriculture to the DOD. Although MAFFS are firefighting equipment currently owned by the U.S. Forest Service, they are used exclusively on C-130 transports owned by the Air Force Reserve and the Air National Guard. Supporters argue that transferring ownership of the units will simplify managerial questions and chains of authority, as well as prove more cost effective. **Staff Contact: Don Gilchrest, x5-5811**

Mr. Gekas may offer an amendment to extend by one year the authority for the Army to finish construction of barracks at Fort Indiantown Gap, Pennsylvania. The current authorization of \$6.2 million will expire at the end of FY 1997. The project is the first phase of a multi-phase endeavor to improve the infrastructure of the facility and make it a viable training sight. **Staff Contact: Alan Cagnoli, x5-4315**

Mr. Hall (OH) may offer an amendment to authorize the Secretary of Energy to issue guidelines for the sale or lease of the property of the Department of Energy. The plan also requires that the secretary consult with local community organizations when determining plans for reuse of the property and exempt transferees from all liability for any personal injury or property damage that may occur as a result of any authenticated, dangerous activity on the part of the Department of Energy. **Staff Contact: Michael Gessel, x5-6465**

Mr. Hastert and Mr. Spence may offer an amendment to require the Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy to report to Congress on the development of narcotics detection technologies by federal agencies in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of State, the Secretary of the Treasury, and the Secretary of Transportation. Currently, much of the funding for the development of such technology originates from the Defense Department. Staff Contact: Chris Marsten (Hastert), x5-2577; Andrea Aquino (Spence), x5-5050

Mr. Hastings (WA) may offer an amendment to strengthen the existing bill provisions for the Department of Energy by making a number of the environmental cleanup program management provisions mandatory, instead of voluntary. Last year's defense authorization bill included provisions encouraging the DOE to reform its management of environmental cleanup, but certain sites have continued to be problematic for department management. The amendment requires the DOE to delegate to the site managers of defense nuclear facilities the authority to oversee and direct environmental management operations, including environmental cleanups, at such facilities. Staff Contact: John Devaney or Doug Riggs, x5-5816

Mr. Hastings (WA) may offer an amendment to extend temporarily the Workforce Transition Program and allow the Secretary of Energy to provide \$44 million in additional funding for the program. Although several DOE sites have experienced dramatic downsizing over the past three years, the Defense Committee recently reduced transition funding from \$70 million to \$22 million. The amendment temporarily extends funding for the programs and authorizes the department to

contract with a private auditing firm to examine the impact of the workforce transition program on the targeted communities. It also allows the secretary to use excess money from existing administrative accounts (unspent funds) to fund the program's temporary extension, but limits spending to \$66 million instead of the administration's requested \$70 million. *Staff Contact: John Devaney or Doug Riggs*, *x5-5816*

Ms. Eddie Bernice Johnson (TX) may offer an amendment to require the Secretary of Defense to report to Congress on the feasibility of converting Active Guard Reserve personnel who support the full-time service program for the National Guard and reserves to military technicians. The member points to studies that suggest the transfer will save \$2.62 billion per year. Staff Contact: Eric Foster, x5-8885

Mr. Metcalf may offer an amendment to express the sense of Congress that the DOD explore all technology and treatment remedies available to aid in the treatment of military personnel who are suffering from unexplainable illnesses as a result of the Persian Gulf War. **Staff Contact: Jeff Markey, x5-2695**

Mr. Pickett may offer an amendment to transfer \$10 million to the Navy's Land Attack Standard Missile (LASM), with offsetting cuts of \$5 million from the Air Systems and Weapons Advance Technology program and \$5 million from the Ship Hull Mechanical and Electrical Technology fund. **Staff Contact: Albert Oetken, x5-4215**

Mr. Pickett may offer an amendment to prohibit the Defense Secretary from determining which costs are allowable for employee stock ownership plans under contracts with the Defense Department. The amendment codifies a 1995 Defense regulation that was withdrawn in 1996. **Staff Contact: Albert Oetken, x5-4215**

Mr. Riley may offer an amendment to expand the responsibilities of the director of operational test and evaluation to include managing the Operational Field Assessment program, which is a partner-ship between several defense related agencies that provides the Commander-in-Chief with information to address near-term operational issues such as the surface-to-air missile threat in Bosnia. **Staff Contact: Dan Gans, x5-4365**

Mr. Saxton may offer an amendment to replace Title 29 of the bill with compromise text (negotiated between DOD, the Interior Department, and the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies) to authorize \$9 million per year for the next five years for the Sikes Act, which provides mechanisms for cooperative wildlife management at approximately 900 military installations. The amendment also amends the Sikes Act by replacing existing conservation plans with comprehensive Integrated Natural Resources Management Plans (INRMPs) designed to enhance fish and wildlife conservation. **Staff Contact: Ethan Cooper, x5-4765**

Mr. Saxton may offer an amendment to clarify that the Army Secretary may convey approximately 45 acres of land from Fort Dix to Wrightstown and the New Hanover Board of Education in New Jersey. *Staff Contact: Ethan Cooper*, *x5-4765*

Mr. Sisisky may offer an amendment to require the Comptroller General to submit a report to Congress, concerning the military medical facility requirements in the national capital region, which

provides suggestions to better coordinate services between the numerous health care agencies. *Staff Contact: Perry Floyd*, *x5-6365*

Mr. Skelton may offer an amendment to require the Secretary of Defense to submit a report to Congress describing the deficiencies of DOD antiterrorism activities and make recommendations for improvements. *Staff Contact: Bill Natter*, *x5-2876*

Mr. Skelton may offer an amendment to authorize the Community College of the Air Force to award associate degrees to members of the Armed Forces. Staff Contact: Bill Natter, x5-2876

Mr. Skelton may offer an amendment to require the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to submit to Congress a report on federal international antiterrorism efforts of the U.S. government which includes a strategy to implement a government-wide expense reporting requirements. The member points to recent information that suggests this is a necessary step to combat international crime. **Staff Contact: Bill Natter, x5-2876**

Mr. Skelton may offer an amendment to expand the prohibition on the burial of veterans to include those convicted of crimes involving weapons of mass destruction against federal properties, law enforcement officers, or employees. The amendment was motivated by the recent news that Timothy McVeigh may be buried in Arlington Cemetery despite being convicted in the Oklahoma City bombing. **Staff Contact: Bill Natter, x5-2876**

Mr. Solomon and Mr. Rohrabacher may offer an amendment to prohibit DOD funding for the Nunn-Lugar program in Russia if that country transfers any SS-N-22 missile systems to the People's Republic of China. Currently, Russia has a sale pending on these ballistic missiles and the amendment is designed to prompt Russia to terminate the transfer. A similar amendment was added to the Foreign Relations Act (H.R. 1757). *Staff Contact: Jim Doran*, *x5-7985*.

Mr. Spratt may offer an amendment to expand the number of people eligible to participate in the Integrated Product Team demonstration project to include support personnel assigned to work with the acquisition workforce. *Staff Contact: Juanita Toatley, x5-5501*

Mr. Thune may offer an amendment to authorize the Air Force Secretary to transfer approximately 215 acres from Ellsworth Air Force Base in South Dakota to the Greater Box Elder Economic Development Corporation and to the Douglas School District to be used in compliance with Ellsworth's Air Installation Compatibility Use Zone. While the land surrounding the base has experienced a great deal of development in recent years, most of that development has been in the "plane crash zone" or a flood plain. The transfer of excess land will allow businesses and homes to relocate from these areas and occupy a safe area of land that has no development plans. Staff Contact: John Weaver, x5-2801

Mr. Traficant may offer an amendment to direct the Inspector General of the Department of Defense to conduct a random audit of military installations in the U.S. to determine the extent to which U.S military bases are using base funds to purchase foreign-made goods. Currently, no system for tracking and monitoring the smaller purchases of military installations exists, and the Pentagon has no way to determine the extent to which bases are procuring foreign-made goods. Upon conclusion of the investigation, the DOD Inspector General must report to Congress no by October 1, 1998.

DOD was provided an exemption to the Buy America Act, which requires federal agencies to purchase American made products as often as possible. *Staff Contact: Dan Blair, x5-5261*

Mr. Traficant may offer an amendment to require DOD to report to Congress on the amount of department purchases from foreign entities in FY 1998, and specify in the report the dollar amount of items for which the Buy America Act was waived. *Staff Contact: Dan Blair*, x5-5261

Mr. Wamp may offer an amendment to encourage the Army to partner with communities in order to develop portions of Army ammunition sites participating in the Armament and Retooling and Manufacturing Support Initiative (ARMS) program. It will allow communities to lease portions of the land and/or facilities so that they can attract commercial business to the property, and the revenue generated from these leases will be used to modernize, develop, and restore the site. **Staff Contact: Claire McVay, x5-3271**

Mr. Weldon (PA) may offer an amendment to express the sense of Congress regarding the need for Russian openness on the Yamantau Mountain Project, which U.S. officials believe is a massive underground facility of unknown purpose designed to survive a nuclear war. The amendment expresses that the Russian government should provide a written explanation about the purpose of the project and allow U.S. officials to inspect the site. **Staff Contact: Nancy Lifset, x5-2011**

Additional Information: See Legislative Digest, Vol. XXVI, #17, Pt. II, June 16, 1997.



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